

## MID-SIZE AGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL (MACC)

### Meeting Notes

Thursday, October 17, 2013 at 2:30 p.m. – Brown Heatly Room 1430

#### **Welcome and Announcements:**

Brian White, MACC Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m. He led introductions and provided fall highlights:

- The TSABAA Mid-Winter conference will be in January held at the Y.O. Ranch Hotel and Conference Center in Kerrville, Texas.
- The LBJ School of Public Affairs and TSHRA Human Resources Conference is Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.
- The next TSHRA meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Employees Retirement System (ERS)**

<http://www.ers.state.tx.us>

Martha Wall, Communications & Research, provided information about the Valuation of the ERS Pension Fund:

- Annually, ERS reports the financial status of the ERS Retirement Plans. The Actuarial Valuations as of August 31, 2012 show that the plans continue to operate on an actuarially unsound basis; contributions and investment returns are less than the long-term benefits (liabilities) the plans are expected to pay. This causes a portion of the plans' liabilities to remain unfunded.
- The cost of benefits being earned by active state employees (normal cost) remained stable over the past year at 12.31% of payroll and is being fully funded by state and employee contributions. However, as long as contribution levels continue to be less than needed to cover both the normal cost and the unfunded liability, ERS' funded status will continue to decline.

#### **Texas Office of Homeland Security – Business Continuity Plan**

Mike George, Senior Strategic Planner

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- A draft of a policy letter was discussed that, when finalized, will be sent to agency Executive Directors to clarify requirements for business continuity plans. This tool will assist planners by designating Texas essential functions and creating a standard for content.
- All agencies have a legislative requirement to create a business continuity plan and the State Office of Risk Management (SORM) is charged with evaluating them. SORM will use the policy letter standard as a checklist for evaluation during an agency's Risk Management Program Review which is conducted every four years.
- Agencies should designate a Continuity Coordinator. Online training is required of Coordinators along with a few face-to-face classes provided by FEMA. A training schedule is available at [www.preparingtexas.org](http://www.preparingtexas.org)

#### **Office of the State Demographer – Inventory of State Data Resources**

<https://idserportal.utsa.edu/TLC/Inventory/Index.aspx>

Dr. Lilia Valencia, Researcher and Legislative Liaison

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- At the request of the Texas Legislative Council (TLC), the Inventory of State Data Resources was created to collect data used to calculate agencies' key performance measures. This is an online application that consists of "data profiles," which do not require agencies to provide their data directly, but rather to profile it by describing the data including format, timeframe and access methods.
- State agencies participate on a volunteer basis but are strongly encouraged to participate. Participating agencies are asked to annually update their information each October. Agency Administrators should have received an email on October 17<sup>th</sup> or will be receiving a mailed letter with instructions. TLC maintains a list of agency administrators. The deadline to assign an

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Agency Administrator is October 25<sup>th</sup> and the deadline to complete annual update is November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Office of the Governor**

<http://governor.state.tx.us/>

Ed Robertson, Governor's Advisor, was not available to provide an update.

**Texas Public Employees Association (TPEA)**

<http://www.tpea.org/>

Amy Chamberlain discussed TPEA's current focus:

- Healthcare containment costs
- Cost of living increases of retirees
- State employees are encouraged to join, membership dues just \$7.50/month

**Discussion with MACC Members**

Brian White asked members if the next meeting could be scheduled for January; there was no opposition so the tentative date for the next MACC meeting is Thursday, January 16, 2013. Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by Amanda Fletcher, MACC Secretary